Sparkplug Steering Committee Minutes
June 4, 2020

Attendees

Jeff Knepper, Canary Labs
Arlen Nipper, Cirrus Link Solutions, Chair
Don Pearson, Inductive Automation
Mao Huang and Ben Hu, ORing Industrial
Jackie Eldridge, Inductive Automation
Paul Buck, Eclipse Foundation
Sharon Corbett, Eclipse Foundation
Ian Skerrett, HiveMQ
Frédéric Desbiens, Eclipse Foundation
Todd Anslinger, Chevron
Ioana Maftei, Eclipse Foundation

Absent:
N/A

Minutes

Approved Minutes

Minutes of the May 21, 2020 Call are unanimously approved as drafted.

Topics

Specification Ballot and Project Creation

The meeting was kicked off by announcing the Ballot to create the Sparkplug Specification Project was successful with a super majority vote of 4-6 in favor (2 absent votes). The successful ballot enabled the Sparkplug Specificaton Project to be created on June 3, 2020.

Specification Ballot Vote Summary:

Representing	Vote
Canary Labs	1
Chevron	
Cirrus Link	1
HiveMQ	
Inductive Automation	1
ORing	1
	4

Paul Buck reminded the Committee of the importance of voting. Potential for non votes could be an email issue (personal vs work).

ACTION: Frederic to follow up accordingly to adjust email provided by the members if required.

Next Steps

Specification document to be migrated to the asciidoc format to prepare the submission for development in the Eclipse Foundation repository following IP review check. Wes Johnson is aware of this requirement.

Frederic confirmed training sessions for both the Specification Committee representatives as well as the project committer members have now taken place. A recording of last week's Committer session is [here] and the Spec Committee session's recording is [here] (passcode= 1x?f+7#Y)

With the formal obligations being fulfilled; it's time for the project work to get underway including the creation of the TCK being job one!

Frederic will help Wes Johnson set up a project call cadence and share Zoom Account information for the project committers and continue to leverage Eclipse Foundation staff as required to help provide guidance on how to get up and running as a Specification Project. Critical path is turning the specification document as it stands into an asciidoc.

A reminder to encourage the project to use the mailing list for discussions and use GitHub issues for tracking purposes.

ACTION: Frederic to facilitate regular project calls and arrange for Ivar and Wes to discuss getting started as well.

Specification Committee Update

A meeting cadence has not yet been scheduled and a Chair has not yet been elected. The Committee asked if customary to have a regular meeting schedule now that the project has been created. Paul identified it depends; however, from an educational perspective and getting formalizations set and in place (voting, electing a chair), two meetings for the next couple of months would be beneficial. Further, it would be beneficial to invite Ivar Grimstad and Wayne Beaton to the first meeting to create an opportunity for early discussion; ask questions, etc., during the formative steps of the Specification Committee.

Resolved, the Specification Committee will meet monthly for the near term and can adjust later if required.

ACTION: Frederic to create the monthly meeting for the Specification Committee via the Specification Mailing List which has been set up.

Sparkplug Test Compatibility Kit (TCK) Status

TCK is the responsibility of the Specification Project committers as well. Arlen confirms the reference implementations in Eclipse Tahu are a good starting point. Legwork on getting

connected with a client is already in place. Most companies with existing implementations have started with the reference implementations. Now, the project needs to take one of those (Java, Javascript, Python, or C) and create the unit tests. In order to understand the amount of effort involved, the Specification Committee needs to provide input to the Steering Committee.

The existing reference implementation code is old (contributed and frozen) until the specification was in a form where normative statements were included. The important steps now are:

#1 - Get specification cleaned up
#2 - Decide on which one of the four programming languages to use; peel source code out of Tahu and that is the starting point of the TCK; evolve from what is there now as reference implementation so that unit tests can plug into the reference implementation code we have now.

Membership Pipeline Review:

The pipeline document was updated with several leads of interest.

A number of discussions took place regarding next steps, planned calls, and end of June activities providing an opportunity for further prospects.

Frederic recommended keeping attendance at the ARC Forum high on the priority list for next year.

Webinar

Jeff brought forward an idea whereby committee members would reach out to their contacts to gain interest in holding a 30 minute webinar about *"What is the Working Group, Why Join, etc."*. This new recording could then also be utilized to drive consistency and messaging and website post. This would be another great way to get awareness out there again and get contacts from manufacturing and end users. It was pointed out the December call agenda worked really well and could be used with a refresh and an Eclipse Foundation component.

The timing of this live event was estimated to be perhaps end of June or into July timeframe and whether or not arranging a second edition for an Asia friendly timeslot should be considered. Ben will discuss with Angus and advise. Don and Arlen will also reach out to Angus regarding accommodating ORing. ACTION: Ben, Don, and Arlen.
ACTION: Frederic to send a link to that slide deck; make adjustments and discuss at the next meeting.

Messaging Update

In order to set expectations on execution, Frederic needs to share the upcoming changes with Eclipse Foundation Staff to get the work into their queue as they are quite busy.

Jeff provided the link to the updated [wire frames](#) as discussed at last meeting and indicates ready to update on current site as quickly as possible and refresh the website at a later date. Frederic to raise awareness to EF staff and provide feedback on timing.

ACTION: Jeff to provide zip of HTML to Frederic
ACTION: Frederic to discuss timing with EF staff.

Frederic thanked the Committee for the great work on the messaging updates.

Meeting Adjourned.